THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI U.V. KRISHNAM-RAJU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Under the National Policy on Handling, Storage and Transportation of Foodgrains, approved by the Government, Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) is allowed for developing and operating bulk grain handling, storage and transportation facilities in the country.

PDS Control Order, 2001

†2383. SHRI MANOHAR KANT DHYANI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Public Distribution System Control Order, 2001 was brought to protect interests of economically weaker sections of the society;

(b) the details of officers/employees punished under the provisions of this order, State-wise; and

(c) whether the benefits of the provisions of Order have reached such people throughout the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI U.V. KRISHNAM RAJU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Figures are not maintained by the Central Government.

(c) Reports received from the State Governments/UTs indicate that the provisions of PDS (Control) Order, 2001 have benefited the card holders under the TPDS.

BPL people in Uttaranchal

†2384. SHRI MANOHAR KANT DHYANI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether it is a fact that 36 per cent population of the country is living below the poverty line and what is the State-wise number thereof;

(b) the existing quota of foodgrains for the State in comparison to the quota of foodgrains being disbursed under this head before increasing the quantity of 10 Kilograms of grains being given to the people living below the poverty line; and

(c) whether Uttaranchal Government has not been able to identify this section properly?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI U.V. KRISHNAM-RAJU): (a) Yes, Sir. The State-wise number of BPL families as per the poverty estimates of Planning Commission as on 1.3.2000 is given in the Statement. (*See* below)

(b) the scale of issue of BPL categories has been increased from 25 Kg. per month per family to 35. Kg. per month per family *w.e.f.* 1.4.2002. The monthly allocation of foodgrains to all the State & UTs at earlier scale of issue and the present scale works out to 13.22 lakh MTs and 18.99 lakh MTs respectively.

(c) As per the poverty estimates of the Planning Commission as on 1.3.2000, the number of BPL families in the State of Uttaranchal is 4.98 lakhs against which the State Government has issued 4.22 lakhs BPL ration cards.

Statement

State-wise number of BPL families as per Planning Commission Estimates.

Sl. No.	Name of State	Total No. of BPL Households in the State (in lakhs)	Percentage of BPL population in the State
1.	Andhra Pradesh	40.63	25.68
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.99	40.86
3.	Assam	18.36	40.86
4.	Bihar	65.23	54.96

Sl. No.	Name of State	Total No. of BPL Households in the State (in lakhs)	Percentage of BPL population in the State
5.	Chhattisgarh	18.75	42.52
6.	Delhi	4.09	14.69
7.	Goa	0.48	14.92
8.	Gujarat	21.20	24.21
9.	Haryana	7.89	25.05
10.	Himachal Pradesh	5.14	40.86
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	7.36	40.86
12.	Jharkhand	23.94	54.96
13.	Karnataka	31.29	33.16
14.	Kerala	15.54	25.43
15.	Madhya Pradesh	41.25	42.52
16.	Maharashtra	65.34	36.86
17.	Manipur	1.66	40.86
18.	Meghalaya	1.83	40.86
19.	Mizoram	0.68	40.86
20.	Nagaland	1.24	40.86
21.	Orissa	32.98	48.56
22.	Punjab	4.68	11.77
23.	Rajasthan	24.31	27.41
24.	Sikkim	0.43	41.43
25.	Tamil Nadu	48.63	35.03
26.	Tripura	2.95	40.86
27.	Uttar Pradesh	106.79	40.85
28.	Uttaranchal	4.98	40.85
29.	West Bengal	51.79	35.66
30.	A&N Islands	0.28	34.47
31.	Chandigarh	0.23	11.35
32.	D&N Haveli	0.18	50.84
33.	Daman & Diu	0.04	15.80
34.	Lakshadweep	0.03	25.04
35.	Pondicherry	0.84	37.40
	TOTAL:	652.04	36.15